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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
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SUBJECT Pax Romana - Congress in Rome

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. The Pax-Romana Congress was characterized by an energetic effort on the part of the French to push through a purely French program. This effort failed, however, both because the aim was so evident and because of the attitude of the Spanish and South American delegates. The French were represented by about fifty delegates from all over France.

2. The following points are considered to be the more important ones discussed during the conference:

- (a) Final establishment of an international Catholic charitable service which will hold together the different national Catholic charitable services including the German charities and the National Catholic Welfare Conference of the United States. International Catholic Charitable Service will have headquarters in Fribourg (Switzerland) and will act only as a fact finding agency. Actual distribution of aid will be made by Division 4 of Secretariat of State of the Vatican which is being organized at present. The Holy See will ask the United States Government to put at the Holy See's disposal twenty railway freight cars for the service. The Holy See will also try to buy twenty-five or thirty Liberty ships, directly or through private Argentine channels, to carry large amounts of foodstuffs bought by the Vatican but which cannot be delivered to Europe because of lack of transportation. These ships would sail under the flag of the Holy See.
- (b) A permanent committee was formed including such members of the International Catholic Intellectual Association, as are at the same time members of the different Christian Social or Christian Democratic parties all over the world. This committee will hold meetings probably every three months. The next meeting will be held in May in Ettal (Bavaria), with the participation of about thirty-five members from different countries.
- (c) Exchange of more detailed news through the center of the Secretariat of Pax-Romana in Fribourg, Switzerland.

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(d) The suggestion was made and accepted by the Pope to internationalize the bank of the Vatican (Opera della Religione). This institute which, until now has been managed by Italian personnel, will take on international personnel and will open branches all over the world. The main purpose of internationalizing Opera della Religione is to respond to the more vast financial operations which, in the next months and years will be required by the Holy See. These operations are as follows:

- (1) Financing the international Catholic charitable service.
- (2) Helping and financing immigration of displaced persons, mostly Germans, to South America, Canada and South Africa from Europe.

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